

Beth Feingold
921 Cragmont Ave
Berkeley CA 94708

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Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

After almost two decades of service from the big phone company, first dial-up, then DSL, now broadband, the lack of customer service, the rarely-up-to-advertised speeds, and the increasing expense, I am switching to an alternative provider.

In addition to my own particular story, I believe that greater competition is needed, that the vast growth of a few small providers is a recipe for higher prices and reduced services, and that in today's world, broadband is critical to everyone, from school children to small business owners.

I do not have a competitive phone service because I live in an earthquake prone area and because the power goes out with every early season storm - the copper wire in the old land-line is back-up. If there was an option for this, I would do so - for the same reasons as above, poor service, high and increasing expenses.

Thank you for considering this opinion.

Beth Feingold